

REPORT

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

IN ANSWER TO

*The resolution of the Senate of February 28, 1845, with respect to suspended pre-emption land claims in Louisiana.*

DECEMBER 9, 1845.—Read.

DECEMBER 30, 1845.—Referred to the Committee on Private Land Claims, and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
December 5, 1845.

SIR: In compliance with a resolution adopted by the Senate on the 28th February last, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report to that body, at this session of Congress, "the number of the pre-emption land claims in the State of Louisiana for which patents cannot be issued, on account of irregularities in the entries, or from other causes, and a plan for their adjustment," I have the honor herewith to submit a report from the Commissioner of the General Land Office on the subject, with an accompanying statement; and to express my concurrence with him in opinion as to the proper plan of adjustment in the description of cases referred to in the resolution of the Senate.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
R. J. WALKER,  
*Secretary of the Treasury.*

HON. GEORGE M. DALLAS,  
*Vice President of the United States,  
and President of the Senate.*

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,  
December 4, 1845.

SIR: In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, dated the 28th of February last, directing a report to be made to that body at this session of Congress, of the number of the pre-emption land claims in the State of Louisiana for which patents cannot be issued, on account of irregularities in the entries, or from other causes, and a plan for their adjustment, I have the honor to enclose herewith a statement showing the numbers of the

said cases in each district, with the particular cause of suspension—the aggregate of such cases being 556. This does not include those entries already decided to have been illegal and void, (in many of which, under existing laws, the purchase money has been refunded,) but only those upon which no definitive action has yet been had.

In reference to a plan for the settlement of those cases, I can suggest no better one than that recommended in my annual report in reference to similar cases existing in other States besides Louisiana, to wit: the final action, upon principles of equity and justice, by a board consisting of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Attorney General, and the Commissioner of the General Land Office, upon all such cases; thus freeing this office of its present most fruitful source of embarrassment, and enabling parties who have substantially complied with the requisitions of the laws as to settlement and improvement of the land, to obtain patents therefor.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

JAS. SHIELDS, *Commissioner.*

HON. ROBERT J. WALKER,

*Secretary of the Treasury.*

RECEIVED  
TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
December 5, 1845.

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I have the honor to be very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
R. J. WALKER,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. George M. Dallas,  
Vice President of the United States  
and President of the Senate.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,  
December 4, 1845.

Sir: In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, dated the 28th of February last directing a report to be made to that body at this session of Congress, of the number of the preemption land claims in the State of Louisiana for which patents cannot be issued, on account of irregularities in the entries, or from other causes, and a plan for their adjustment, I have the honor to enclose herewith a statement showing the numbers of the

entries of these preceptors.

*Pre-emption claims suspended in the several land districts of Louisiana.*

Districts.	Remarks.
<i>New Orleans.</i>	
Certificates 55, 63, 115, 116, 134, 140, 183, 189, 215, 231, 257, 356, 359, 360, 450, 467, 487, 489, 548, 557, 558, 733, 788, 911, 1023, 1024, 1117, 1229, 1252, 1428, 1469, 1525, 1526, 1646, 1699, 1709, 1764, 1808, 1892, 1920, 2067, 2192, 2205, 2209, 2317, 2386, 2357.	Suspended in consequence of their interference with private claims.
Certificates 62, 161, 494, 1345, 1412, 1985, 1941, 1955, 2036, 2383, 2407.	Corrections of entry ordered.
Certificates 178, 385, 789, 922, 923, 928, 1029, 1030, 1228, 1424, 1919, 2178, 2202, 2286, 2359.	No plats on file in this office.
Certificates 331, 354 - - - - -	Erroneous locations. The parties in 354 allege that the claimants in 331 did not live on the tracts entered by them, but that they, the first parties, lived on the land entered by the latter.
Certificates 126, 213, 337, 384, 550, 812, 1037, 1056, 1059, 1075, 1226, 1227, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1311, 1312, 1320, 1330, 1337, 1359, 1398, 2186, 2307, 2544, 2557.	Disagree with plats.
Certificates 498, 500, 501, 1976, 2290, 2352, 2682 - -	Reinvestigation ordered. Claimants' affidavits prior to entry.
Certificates 1451, 1453, 1464, 1483, 1489, 1490, 1492, 1503, 1512, 1513, 1527, 1528, 1529, 1530, 1531, 1795, 1834, 1844, 1849, 1966, 2013, 2166, 2182, 2188, 2189, 2203, 2373.	Further proof required.
Certificates 1497, 1886, 1887, 1895, 1902, 1903, 1930, 1938, 1949, 1951, 1959, 1961, 1962, 1966, 1970, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1989, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2014, 2020, 2027, 2028, 2032, 2033, 2040, 2049, 2053, 2061, 2062, 2064, 2071, 2330, 2340, 2342, 2344, 2361, 2362, 2386, 2388, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2406, 2643.	Survey said to be fraudulent.
Certificates 1927, 1936, 1940, 1944, 2021, 2030, 2031, 2052, 2054, 2065.	Interfere with private claims.
<i>Opelousas.</i>	
Certificates 1211, 1212, 1290, 1291, 1295, 1619, 1948, 1949, 1950, 4212.	Corrections of entry ordered.
Certificates 1618, 1686, 1884, 1898, 1911, 1914, 1934, 1935, 2013, 2036.	No plats on file in this office.
Certificates 1292, 1293, 1876, 1929, 1930, 1996, 2066, 2090, 2646, 2647, 2648.	Reinvestigations ordered.
Certificates 1897, 1926, 2561, 2567, 2568, 4174, 4183, 4201	Further proof required.
Certificates 1028, 1029, 1107, 1117, 1118, 1119, 1139, 1140, 1283, 1284, 1988, 1989, 2575, 2576, 3051, 3098, 4095, 4096, 4097, 4101, 4103.	Claimants' affidavits prior to entry.
Certificates 2045, 2051, 2052, 2062, 2070, 2071, 2074, 2075, 2079, 2089, 2337.	Entries on "sketch maps."
Certificates 1254, 1255, 1582, 1583, 1596, 1597, 1608, 1609, 1610, 1611, 1612, 1622, 1629, 1637, 1670, 1878, 1882, 1899, 1900, 1920, 1937, 1942, 1968, 1969, 1974, 1984, 1985, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2016, 2019, 2021, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2044, 2065, 2088, 2165, 2419, 2420, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2587, 2588, 2635, 2719, 2741, 2742, 2743, 2744, 2745, 2746, 2747, 2829, 2830, 2831, 2832, 2833, 2836, 2845, 2847, 2931, 2945, 2946, 2947, 2950, 2951, 2953, 2954, 2956, 2965, 2967, 2983, 2984, 2987, 2988, 2989, 2990, 2992, 2994, 2996, 2997, 2995, 3003, 3008, 3013, 3016, 3017, 3026, 3031, 3032, 3033, 4023, 4025, 4026, 4027, 4028, 4029, 4030, 4031, 4037, 4077, 4091, 4099, 4100, 4102, 4105.	

## STATEMENT—Continued.

Districts.	Remarks.
<i>Opelousas—Continued.</i>	
Certificates 4068, 4098, 4104 - - - - -	Date of filing plat in register's office not reported. The respective laws under which these entries were made having previously expired, information is required of the register as to whether they were completed within one year after the return of the plat to his office, (see act of July 14, 1832.)
<i>Onachita.</i>	
Certificates 5010, 7787, 7856, 7882, 7915, 7924, 7925, 7931, 7932.	Interfere with private claims.
Certificates 852, 1266, 4036 - - - - -	Correction of entry ordered.
Certificates 1960, 1970, 2102, 2429, 2430, 4331, 4816, 5878, 6582.	Further proof required.
Certificates 4802, 4824, 4882 - - - - -	Tracts inadvertently patented to others.
Certificate 4896 - - - - -	Reinvestigation ordered.
Certificates 7796, 7797, 7821, 7851, 7884, 7898, 8031, 8042	Quantity exceeds that allowed by law.
<i>Natchiloches.</i>	
Certificates 1, 2, 5, 150 - - - - -	Interfere with private claims.
Certificates 10, 38, 815, 819, 932, 933	Corrections of entry ordered.
Certificates 20, 21, 22, 36, 65, 151, 185, 890, 1643, 1922, 1953, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2099.	Further proof required.
Certificate 812 - - - - -	No plat on file.
Certificate 1650 - - - - -	Conflict with Seminary location.
Certificates 8, 9, 11, 15, 24, 44, 54, 55, 59, 61, 66, 67, 69, 73, 76, 77, 78, 84, 85, 92, 94, 100, 116, 117, 118, 124, 127, 131, 144, 147, 149, 154, 164, 186, 430, 441, 465, 473, 476, 486, 518, 520, 521, 522, 523, 528, 535, 537, 546, 756, 760, 761, 784, 788, 795, 808, 822, 823, 824, 826, 827, 828, 844, 845, 846, 847, 849, 856, 858, 859, 860, 863, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 876, 877, 882, 883, 884, 885, 889, 891, 892, 894, 895, 899, 901, 904, 916, 917, 918, 921, 922, 927, 938, 1557.	Affidavits of claimants not filed.

STATEMENT—Continued.

Districts.				Interfering with private claims.	Corrections of entry ordered.	Excess of quantity.	No plats on file.	Erroneous locations.	Entries on sketch maps.	Disagree with plats.	Date of filing plat in register's office not reported.	Reinvestigations ordered.	Tracts inadvertently patented to others.	Conflict with seminary locations.	Affidavits of claimants prior to entry.	Affidavits of claimants not filed.	Further proof required.	Surveys said to be fraudulent.	Total.
New Orleans	-	-	-	48	11	-	15	2	-	27	-	7	-	-	27	-	51	10	198
Opelousas	-	-	-	10	10	-	11	-	122	-	3	8	-	-	11	-	21	-	196
Ouachita	-	-	-	9	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	9	-	33
Natchitoches	-	-	-	4	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	102	15	-	129
				71	30	8	27	2	122	27	3	16	3	1	38	102	96	10	556

